

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A retraction device comprising:

a holding member to be fixed to an extension rail;
an entrainment member releasably coupled to said holding member;
a first spring having a first end fixed to said entrainment member, and having a second end to be anchored to a carrier rail;

a second spring having a first end releasably coupled to said entrainment member, and having a second end to be anchored to the carrier rail; and

a releasing mechanism for releasing said first end of said second spring from said entrainment member while said entrainment member moves along a path of movement.

22. (New) The retraction device according to claim 21, wherein a length of said first spring at rest is different than a length of said second spring at rest.

23. (New) The retraction device according to claim 22, wherein said releasing mechanism includes:

a coupling member fixed to said first end of said second spring for releasably coupling said first end of said second spring to said entrainment member;

a rocker member mounted in said coupling member; and

a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

24. (New) The retraction device according to claim 21, wherein said entrainment member is displaceable within a housing, and wherein said releasing mechanism includes a coupling member for releasably coupling said first end of said second spring to said entrainment member, said coupling member being fixed to said first end of said second spring, and said coupling

member being operable to alternately couple said first end of said second spring to said entrainment member or said housing.

25. (New) The retraction device according to claim 24, wherein said releasing mechanism further includes a slider arranged so as to be linearly displaceable in said housing, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider.

26. (New) The retraction device according to claim 25, wherein said releasing mechanism includes a rocker member mounted in said coupling member, and wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

27. (New) The retraction device according to claim 24, wherein said releasing mechanism further includes a rocker member mounted in said coupling member.

28. (New) The retraction device according to claim 27, wherein said releasing mechanism includes:

a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said rocker member includes a first latching nose and a second latching nose, and wherein said coupling member, said rocker member, said slider and said housing are structured and arranged such that said coupling member is releasably connected with said slider by said rocker member when said second latching nose of said rocker member is engaged with a holding surface of said slider, and such that said first latching nose engages a holding surface of said housing upon said coupling member being released from said slider by said second latching nose being disengaged from said holding surface of said slider.

29. (New) The retraction device according to claim 28, wherein said holding surface of said slider is in the form of a control cam.

30. (New) The retraction device according to claim 29, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

31. (New) The retraction device according to claim 28, wherein said holding surface of said slider is provided at an opening in said slider, and said holding surface of said housing is provided at an opening in said housing.

32. (New) The retraction device according to claim 28, wherein said rocker member is tiltably mounted on a spindle in said coupling member.

33. (New) The retraction device according to claim 32, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

34. (New) The retraction device according to claim 28, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

35. (New) The retraction device according to claim 27, wherein said rocker member is tiltably mounted on a spindle in said coupling member.

36. (New) The retraction device according to claim 35, wherein said releasing mechanism includes a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

37. (New) The retraction device according to claim 27, wherein said coupling member includes a region having a U-shaped cross section in which said rocker member is mounted.

38. (New) The retraction device according to claim 27, wherein said releasing mechanism includes a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

39. (New) The retraction device according to claim 24, wherein said releasing mechanism includes:

- a rocker member mounted in said coupling member; and

- a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.

40. (New) The retraction device according to claim 21, wherein said releasing mechanism includes:

- a coupling member fixed to said first end of said second spring for releasably coupling said first end of said second spring to said entrainment member;

- a rocker member mounted in said coupling member; and

- a linearly displaceable slider, said entrainment member being mounted on said slider, and said coupling member being releasably connected with said slider, wherein said slider includes a control nose for tilting said rocker member so as to releasably couple said coupling member to said slider.